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## Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 27, 2011, at 11 a.m.

## House of Representatives

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2011

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
October 25, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

### AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank President Obama for

bringing all of our troops home from Iraq by the end of this year. This was an unnecessary war that cost over \$850 billion, in which over 4,400 Americans were killed and over 33,000 wounded. It is my hope that future Congresses will not accept misinformation from an administration as justification for sending our troops overseas to engage in combat.

I am reminded of a quote from Rudyard Kipling's "Epitaphs of War": "If they ask you why we died, tell them it is because our fathers lied." I hope this lesson stays with the future leaders of this country and they do everything they can to keep our young men and women from going to war unless it is absolutely justified.

Before the district work period, I went to the new Walter Reed facility in Bethesda. I saw five marines, four of whom had lost both legs. A young lance corporal looked at me and asked, "Why are we still in Afghanistan?" I had to stand there, with his mother in the hospital room, and say, "I don't know."

My hope now is that this administration will bring our troops home before 2015. That is the timetable that Mr. Obama has agreed to. Just this weekend, President Karzai said, "If fighting starts between Pakistan and the United States, we are beside Pakistan. If Pakistan is attacked and the people of Pakistan need Afghanistan's help, Afghanistan will be there with our friends in Pakistan."

I don't know how much more America has to take from a corrupt leader like Karzai. Bin Laden is dead. That

was the whole purpose in going to Afghanistan. Al Qaeda has dispersed all around the world, and we are spending \$10 billion a month in Afghanistan to prop up a corrupt leader, \$10 billion that we could be spending here in America to help our children and our senior citizens. I hope that this Congress will come together and join those of us in both parties who say that victory should be declared because bin Laden is dead.

Mr. Speaker, I bring with me to the floor a picture of a triple amputee, a young soldier and his lovely wife looking at an apartment and thinking as to how they're going to adjust their life. Both legs were amputated and his arm was amputated.

It is time for the American people to speak out to Congress and say, "Bring our troops home" because they have done everything that they could do and they've done it so very well.

Mr. Speaker, I will close by asking God to please bless our men and women in uniform. I ask God to please bless the families of our men and women in uniform. I ask God in His loving arms to hold the families who have given a child dying for freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq. I will ask God to bless the House and Senate, that we will do what is right in the eyes of God for His people here in America, and I will ask God to give wisdom, strength, and courage to President Obama that he will do what is right in the eyes of God for God's people here in America. And I will close three times by saying, God please, God please, God please continue to bless America.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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